



Drivers who continue to ignore parking regulations on Stuttgart-area installations should prepare to be "seeing pink" on a more regular basis, as parking violators will be receiving citations.

Illegal parkers face penalties

Story & photo by Melanie Casey

Drivers who choose to violate the 6th Area Support Group's parking policies not only risk citations and points against their drivers' licenses, but they also may get "the boot."

Since taking command July 25, 6th ASG Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris has heard concerns and received numerous complaints from community members frustrated by the parking challenges on Patch Barracks and other area installations.

"I understand the long-term parking issue in the Stuttgart military community," Bonéy-Harris said. "It is important we take steps to continue improvement of quality of life for all of our service members, civilians and their families. So we're exploring new ways to help ease those daily parking challenges."

"I know enforcement of the policies may be hard to swallow for some residents, but until long-term solutions to the parking situation are executed [the 6th ASG has plans to relocate certain community facilities to Panzer], we must do what we can to mitigate the current problems."

Enforcement begins soon

Illegally parked vehicles will continue to receive warnings until the end of November, said Art Richard, 6th ASG Provost Marshal's Office operations officer.

Beginning Dec. 1, though, the PMO will begin to enforce parking regulations more strictly – and owners of ticketed vehicles will have points assessed (one for each ticket) against their U.S. Army, Europe, drivers' licenses.

Local nationals who violate the parking policy will receive citations and also risk losing the privilege of driving on post, Richard said.

Areas of attention

Richard stressed that PMO personnel will pay particular attention to timed parking spaces on Patch Barracks.

This includes spaces in Washington Square, along Finance Row, and in the Commissary, Post Exchange and PXtra parking lots.

Spaces designated as handicapped parking will also be monitored more closely, said Richard.

"In order for a driver to park in a handicapped space legally, he or she must either be the person for whom the handicapped decal was issued or be accompanied by that person," Richard said. "If not, then the driver is taking that slot away from someone who is [handicapped]."

Drivers who blatantly violate the parking policy, such as creating a space where there is none, or parking on a sidewalk or in a crosswalk, risk having their vehicles' tires "booted" with a vehicle immobilizer, Richard said.

These vehicles could then be towed – at the owner's expense – to either Kelley Barracks or Panzer Kaserne.

No easy solution

"We know that some community members may be inconvenienced by the measures we are putting in place," Bonéy-Harris said, "but this is in the best interest of the entire community and won't be perfect for everyone."

Richard said solutions to the parking situation on Patch include using the duty bus, public transportation or carpooling.

Also, residents who live and work on Patch are asked to walk to work whenever possible.

"We ask everyone for their patience and thank them for their understanding as we set out to improve the quality of life for the entire Stuttgart military community," Bonéy-Harris said.

News & Notes

Area agencies set holiday hours

■ The **Patch Barracks Commissary** will be open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the following Mondays: Nov. 24, Dec. 22 and Dec. 29.

■ The **Kelley Bowling Center** will be closed Nov. 24; Dec. 24, 25 and 31; and Jan. 1.

Holiday mailing deadlines

Community members are advised to mail Christmas packages from Europe by the following deadlines:

- Space-available mail (SAM) parcels: Nov. 20
- Parcel airlift (PAL) parcels: Dec. 4
- Priority parcels and first-class letters: Dec. 11
- Express mail: Dec. 18

BOSS to take Thanksgiving trip

Stuttgart's Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers and Outdoor Recreation are sponsoring a Thanksgiving weekend ski and snowboarding trip to Austria Nov. 27 to 30.

The trip is open to all individuals over the age of 18 and includes transportation, two nights lodging, a two-day pass and equipment.

Instruction is available for an additional fee.

The first 20 people to sign up for this trip will receive a discounted booking price of 230 euro. The regular price is 250 euro per person.

For more information or to register call Desmond Thompson at 430-4512/civ. 0711-680-4512.

Native American Heritage Month

The 6th Area Support Group and 52nd Signal Battalion are co-hosting the following Native American Heritage Month events:

■ Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Native American Pow-wow, Patch High School gymnasium

■ Nov. 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.: Lunch celebration (including food samplings, traditional dances and guest speaker), Patch Community Club

For more information call Sgt. 1st Class Carey Williams at 421-2892/civ. 0711-729-2892 or e-mail williamsc@6asg.army.mil.

Health Clinic expands services

Effective Monday, Nov. 17, the Stuttgart Health Clinic will have additional clinical and administrative personnel to enable sufficient appointments to meet the needs of the Stuttgart Military community and return services to standard levels.

Prompt implementation of the staffing increase will ensure the Stuttgart Health Clinic continues to meet its mission of providing timely and high quality primary care to all our active duty service members, civilian employees, family members, and retirees in the Stuttgart community.

Staffing shortages, as previously publicized, were a result of recent deployments and personnel losses. The clinic and its patients will see immediate relief from this shortfall, which resulted in a lapse in available, local, on-post services for some segments of our population.

The community should be aware that plans to augment clinic staff are being swiftly implemented and include the hiring of two general medical officers, a social worker, a registered nurse, two nursing assistants, an optometry technician, two patient liaisons, two administrative support assistants.

Europe Region Medical Command and the Heidelberg MEDDAC are committed to supporting the Stuttgart Community and Health Clinic to ensure the best possible care for all beneficiaries in the Stuttgart Area, and regrets any recent inconveniences caused by the short curtailments.

For details call 430-8615/civ. 0711-680-8615.

Grant applications available

The German American Women's Club is accepting applications for grants to be awarded from the proceeds of the 2003 Pfennig Bazaar. Applications, which must be submitted by Dec. 22, are available at Army Community Service (Patch Barracks, building 2307).

For more information call Colleen Kohler at 430-5138/civ. 0711-680-5138 or e-mail kohlerc@eucom.mil.

Army Post Offices, community mailrooms set holiday hours



Patch APO

Open Mondays to Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
and Saturdays, 8 a.m. to noon.

Panzer Kaserne and Kelley Barracks APOs

Open Saturdays, 8 a.m. to noon (through Dec. 23).

Robinson Barracks APO

Open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

Community mailrooms

Open Saturdays, Nov. 22 and 29, Dec. 6, 13 and 20, 1 to 3 p.m.

Also open Dec. 24, 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.